TRI COUNTY COLLEGE STUDY COMMITTEE

Explanatory Notes on Recommendations of the Objectives Committee dated January 5, 1956 Prepared for all Executive Committee Members.

January 10, 1956

A. Committee on Need

1. The recommendations made in II and III A should not be construed as attempting to limit either the direction or the scope of the studies to be made by the Committee on Need.

2. In referring to courses combining college study and work experience (III A.2), the Objectives Committee believes consideration should be given to the advantages of a four-semester, full-year college program in this connection, since (a) year-round operation significantly increases college capacity while making use of the same facilities; and (b) cooperative courses at year-round colleges offer many distinct advantages to both student and employer.

3. Estimates of the probably number of students should be prepared at the earliest possible date and supplied the Finance and Legal Committees for use in their studies. In this connection it is the opinion of the Objectives Committee that the proposed college must be prepared to matriculate qualified applicants whether they reside inside or outside of the Tri-County area.

4. If students from outside the Saginaw Valley area are enrolled in large numbers, student dormitories may eventally become necessary as a part of the college campus. The Committee on Need may wish to consider this factor in developing long-range estimates of physical needs and land requirements.

Committee on Finance

5. In the opinion of the Objectives Committee, tuition fees at the projected college might approximate those now charged by Bay City Junior College (about $140 per annum).

6. Further, it appeared to the Objectives Committee that it would be reasonable to expect a contribution from the state toward operating expenses for third and fourth year students, if and when the college becomes a four year institution.

7. It was felt by the Objectives Committee that the college governing body might include three to five members from each of the three counties, possible elected simultaneously with area boards of education. It was felt that members' tenure of office might be four to six years in length and staggered, with elections to the governing board taking place every two years.

8. Recommendations C.1. and C.2. have been made by the Objectives Committee with two objectives in mind: (a) the establishment of a strong, independent college administration; (b) the establishment of logical, harmonious cooperation between the college administration and the high schools and the boards of education in the Tri-County area.

9. It is suggested that the college advisory board be based on one appointee from each city and county school board in the three counties.

10. In reference to recommendation C.3., it is the belief of the Objectives Committee that local control of the college should be a paramount consideration, and that such control should not be sacrificed in the interests of obtaining financial aid from the state.

11. In reference to recommendation C.5., it is suggested that establishment of a college may require an affirmative vote by each of the three counties.

D. Committee on Location

12. In reference to recommendations D.1. and D.2., it is the feeling of the Objectives Committee that a land area of approximately 640 acres may be required. Obvicusly, the findings of the Committee on Location may revise this estimate upward or downward.

13. It is evident that a site approximately equidistant from the three cities (recommendation D.3.) will be near the Tri-City Airport area. In this connection the Objectives Committee feels that the Committee on Location should carefully consider (a) the probable government land requirements in the airport vicinity in event of war, and (b) the hazards of proximity to the airport. It may be necessary to consult a number of competent advisors, e.g., the Civil Aeronautics Authority, before arriving at an estimated safe distance of location from the airport.

14. If this estimated safe distance becomes a major factor (i.e., a distance of several miles), it is the opinion of the Objectives Committee that the Committee on Location should then give greater weight to the population distribution factor, searching a location closer to Saginaw and Bay City. It is felt that this method of location could still provide approximately equal driving time from each of the three main cities.

15. The Objectives Committee recognizes that in the final analysis the availability of land at a suitable price in a location satisfactory to the three communities will be a decisive factor, and feels that a minor amount of driving time, one way or another, should not be an overriding element of consideration.

E. Committee on Geographical Area

16. It appears to the Objectives Committee that the basic responsibility of the Geographical Area Committee is to marshal facts and figures which indicate the unity of the Tri-County area, geographically and otherwise, demonstrating forcefully the geographical and ethical unit concerned has both (a) the obligation to supply educational facilities beyond the secondary level and (b) the ability to establish and operate such facilities.

W. R. Collings

W. R. Collings, Chairman
Committee on Objectives